

Judge M. Chase

Terms—One Dollar a Year.

**THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY.**

Vol. XXXIV.

JANUARY, 1858.

No. 1.

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Published Monthly by the American Colonization Society.

**WASHINGTON:
C. ALEXANDER, PRINTER,
NEAR WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENTS.**

**POSTAGE—To any part of the United States, six cents a year, if paid
quarterly or yearly in advance.**

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21885

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WASHINGTON, JANUARY, 1858.

[No. 1.

Encouraging Thoughts.

IN entering upon the thirty-fourth volume of the AFRICAN REPOSITORY, the Editor cannot forbear an allusion to the changes which have occurred since, thirty-three years ago, he wrote and sent forth the prospectus of this work, the first number of which appeared in March, 1826.

Thanks to the Father of Mercies, that while so many of the early and able friends of the American Colonization Society have gone from this to a higher life, the writer is permitted to see the great benefit of their labors, and the opening prospect of far higher and more beneficent results. Then a small solitary village of colored emigrants, (probably less than four hundred,) alone represented freedom and christianity on Cape Mesurado. Now, from this spot, the independent Republic of Liberia proclaims the authority of law, and extends the combined influences of civilization and christianity over numerous native tribes along nearly five hundred miles of the African coast. Then, the friends of this Society were few, and its resources small; now a great

majority of the wise and good are disposed to contribute to its success. Then, Missions were hardly begun in Africa; now numerous stations adorn the western and eastern coasts, and are planted among populous nations of the interior; while hundreds of missionaries are founding christian churches, and educating many thousands of Africans in the lessons of civilization and the doctrines and duties of christianity. Then Africa was well-nigh abandoned to rapine and piracy, and her principal commerce in men; now, the friends of humanity stir themselves for her deliverance; lawful trade is awakening her industry, bringing to view her resources, and her rich commodities into the markets of the world. Our knowledge of this continent then was mostly confined to regions bordering upon her sea-coast, and this partial; now enterprising and scientific travelers have explored her deserts and her wildernesses, and made accurate reports of her geology, natural history, and ethnology. The intelligence

and comparative civilization of her populous central kingdoms; their geology and botany; the variety and value of their agricultural and commercial resources, have astonished the more cultivated nations of the world. The works of Denham and Clapperton, of the Landers, and very recently the explorations of Richardson and Barth, of Bowen and Livingston, and their published journals and observations, have thrown light upon countries hid for ages from the knowledge of three-quarters of the globe, and caused the scientific, philanthropic, and pious, to consider how these countries with their inhabitants can be made to contribute to the welfare and share in the prosperity of christian nations.

Signally favored by Divine Providence are the people of these United States, but especially in this, that they possess the means and instrumentalities for accomplishing a work not surpassed in beneficence by any which remains for men to do—the civilization and christianization of Africa. England has done much: Sierra Leone is a noble monument to her philanthropy. But Liberia is animated by a higher freedom and a wider prospect.

One month before the first number of this work was issued, in February, 1826, the illustrious Lafayette attended the annual meeting of the Society, (where a young but even then distinguished Virginian, the

virtuous and accomplished W. H. Fitzhugh, Esq., as Vice President presided) in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol, and on motion of G. W. P. Custis, Esq., was unanimously elected a perpetual Vice President of the Institution, and expressed his gratification, and said, that to be a member of the Society would be "accordant to the principles of his whole life." In the speech with which our eloquent friend, Mr. Custis, (who, alas! the last of the family of Washington, has just descended to the tomb,) accompanied his resolution, is this memorable passage:

"The object of the Society was no affair of a moment; it was one which spread itself through a wide period of time. If the Society would ever effect it, they must persevere; they must labor; they must endure disappointment; they must combat difficulties; they must put their shoulders to the wheel, and then pray to Heaven and hope for success. Who knows *but what this Society may yet behold a great and flourishing Republic rise on the shores of Africa!* Who knows but the Society may hear that Republic saying to the world, 'it was America that founded me: In me the New World taught the Old. The chains that once bound my children are now broken in sunder, and from a feeble colony I am become a great empire!' He asked, was not this worthy of Americans? Was this a prospect to be abandoned? Would they desert the helm and go below because they saw difficulty or danger? No, let us brave the gate; let us never give up the ship while we can keep the sea!"

Latest from Liberia.

WE have received intelligence from Liberia bearing date as late as October 27th. In his letter to the Financial Secretary, President Benson says:

"Though I have nothing of much importance to communicate, yet I feel unwilling to allow the present opportunity (the departure of the ketch *Mary Atwell*) to escape without at least half a dozen lines.

"I hope the *M. C. Stevens* has long since arrived; by her you have all the important news from here up to late in August.

"Commercial business continues dull, but will revive, it is supposed, next month, the commencement of the dry season. Domestic provisions (excepting rice) are plentiful and cheap, and have been for the last two months—the supply exceeding the demand. Though we have been much pecuniarily pressed, and in fact are now, and provisions have been very scarce several months of this year, yet so far as I can learn, affairs are moving on harmoniously, and our people are being disciplined by Divine Providence in a way that will prove very salutary. There are some in all countries who must be made to feel keenly before they will consent to see and understand where their best interests lie."

From Greenville, Sinou, Mr. B. A. Payne gives information that the three houses sent out for emigrants by a former expedition, "are completed with the exception of painting, which the rainy season prevents. I hope to have all complete in a month's time, if the weather will permit."

The agent at Robertsport, (Cape

Mount,) Mr. Richard L. Stryker, writes to the Financial Secretary October 3d:

"So far, we have encouraging prospects for the health and prosperity of the immigrants. Their illness has been comparatively little, and many are nearly ready to go into their new houses on their own lands. We have had no deaths among them, since my last letter to you."

We add the following extracts from a letter of October 12th, addressed, by Mr. J. H. Paxton, (in charge of the settlement of Careyburg,) to the Rev. John Seys, and kindly communicated by him:

"From the date of my first of the 15th ultimo, to the present, nothing has occurred derogatory to the prosperity of the settlement: peace and harmony prevail. The rain continues to pour in torrents, and our progress in planting is not as encouraging as we desire; nevertheless, every fair day is seized upon with avidity, and the hoe and axe are applied industriously.

"I am pleased to inform you, that I have nearly succeeded in clearing and planting the whole tract that was cut down, and think that at the end of November, if nothing prevent, to be entirely through with that duty.

"I formerly mentioned to you the progress made towards having the Receptacles completed. We hope to be through in about four weeks. Connected with the Receptacles, I have some of the laborers employed in clearing the ground annexed thereto of stumps and roots, leveling up the same, preparatory to having the premises fenced for garden and other purposes. In this labor, though arduous, we have suc-

ceeded very well, at which I am sure you will be pleased.

"I beg to inform you of my having the large tree, near the Agency House, sawed into lumber to be shipped by the M. C. Stevens on her return voyage. I am confident it will reward handsomely for the pains and labor of shipment.

"I beg again to call your attention to the necessity of having a good road from this to the water-side, and other facilities needed for easy communication. This is indispensable to the prosperity of Careysburg; the character of which, for health, variety of scenery and prospects in the distance, excels all that we know of in Liberia.

"You will be pleased to learn, that the surrounding natives continue to be as peaceful toward us as ever, and that I spare no pains to keep on friendly terms with them.

"You will not be surprised to hear that on the morning of the 9th the thermometer was at 68°."

In a letter of the 15th of October, Mr. H. W. Dennis, agent at Monrovia, among other things says :

"Cape Mount and Careysburg are important places, as well as healthful: and I do hope the Society will be able to sustain them by sending large companies to each place annually. In reference to the latter, I may here say, that before we can have emigrants and their baggage and their six months' stores transported there with regularity and safety, it is important that a good road be made and proper vehicles be secured for transporting them and their effects. Having visited the place, I can see the advantage this would be over the present mode of conveyance."

The Pessay or Pessa Country:—New Mission Station.

NOBLE ENDEAVORS FOR THE INSTRUCTION AND CIVILIZATION OF INTERIOR TRIBES.—VERY IMPORTANT LETTER FROM REV. GEO. L. SEYMOUR.

THE writer of this letter has resided in Africa for nearly twenty years, having emigrated with his family from Hartford, Conn., and settled at Bassa. With an excellent understanding, and warm and generous affections, he devoted himself for several years to the interests of the community in Bassa County, and discharged important public duties. But an apostolic spirit kindled in his soul, and he resolved to penetrate the interior and preach Christ among ignorant and barbarous men. The letter which we now publish, is not less interesting in the spirit that pervades it, than in the scenes and facts and prospects it reveals. The statements of Mr. Seymour will have weight with thoughtful men. The influence of this letter should be great. The religious free people of color of the United States should consider this appeal. We trust there will be found among them men resolute to do good, ready to engage in the great work of African Missions, and go forth to sustain and urge onward the holy enterprize in which Mr. Seymour is engaged. And will not some of our missionary societies, and other benevolent societies for the diffusion of Christian knowledge,

extend to this devoted and self-sacrificing preacher among the untaught heathen of Africa, some encouragement and aid? Or will not benevolent friends of Africa send to Mr. Seymour some substantial evidences of their regard. We shall rejoice to communicate any bounty, either of individuals, churches, or societies, that may be dedicated to further the benevolent object of the author of this letter.

The friends of the American Colonization Society will be pleased to notice the earnest letter of invitation, (from three of the native chiefs or kings, near Mr. Seymour's station,) that a settlement should be made by colored men chosen by this Society upon their territories, with the assurance that land shall be granted for the purpose, and earnest and generous aid be given by them to the enterprize. It is time for the good people of the United States to hear the call from Africa.

PAYNESVILLE, PESSAY COUNTY,
July 2d, 1857.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—I received your kind favor of the date of February 23d, to-day, by the hand of a good brother, Peter Adams, in which you mention the publication of the journal of my tour to the Pessay County, at the time I was impressed to seek a station among this tribe, as a place to plant a mission;—which journal, I regret to say, was not as full and concise as it might have been; but if anything like a satisfactory answer to your very reasonable inquiries can be given by me, I shall be very happy to make the at-

tempt. But before I begin to do so, I will say, that my object among this people is purely of a missionary character, and nothing more; let me do what I may to advance the cause among them, that may be out of the ordinary line of mission work, that is to say, out of the line of Liberian mission labor. We have suffered temptations, crosses and afflictions, hunger and hardships for the cause of Christ among this people, since we began, (which was about eighteen months ago,) with little or no aid, except a small donation by the good people of the city of Buchanan, who, to their credit, came nobly to our assistance, especially at the time I moved out my family, wife and infant child. What has been done at this station has been accomplished by private means, and very little of that; for the labor of timber getting, fitting, framing and raising, &c., has been accomplished by two or three men of us only, except the little that the people could do; yet we had faith, and God blessed our labors, and our faith remains firm—for we look upon the promises as belonging to us, for in reality we have forsaken all for our Savior, and he has not left us alone at any time. Notwithstanding we have been sometimes with but little to eat, and often without salt to season our food, and many other of the like privations, &c., (lack of food, however, was not on account of a scarcity, but rather a want of means to purchase it,) we have made sacrifices of magnitude by leaving the sea-coast for the interior, yet we count it all nought for souls. Our number now stands four, two males and two females, actual members of the mission. We have up a comfortable dwelling, 12 by 28 feet, and when completed it will have a back shed for bed-rooms and a front piazza 8 feet wide each; the house is two-story and attic, three feet from the ground; the timber procured near about where it is erected, and it stands about

three hundred paces from the native town, on an eminence which enables us to overlook the town. I should not forget to mention that this hill is composed of a kind of rock, well-adapted for building purposes. We have a smith's shop, and have among us tools of various kinds, all of which when first used excited the wonder and amazement of the people, and every piece of work performed or accomplished was a step backwards in their own estimation of what they had been in practice of for ages.

Thus the work of reform has begun; we preach the gospel in as plain a manner as possible, for we regard them as children, and must take them by the hand. They begin to observe the sabbath, and will in the future become christians. But that is not to be looked for at once, for we must labor like the Moravians in Greenland. I shall put up my turning lathe, bench saws, cotton-gin, and sugar mill; for our object here is to give a practical proof of what civilized life is. We have introduced many valuable products, such as beans, corn, peas, tomatoes, yams, sweet potatoes, and the silver and red banana. Thus we have at this station the following kinds of that genus: 1. The elephant plantain, the fruit of which is about five inches long and an inch and a quarter in diameter:—whence the name, from the enormous size of the bunch, which will, if well cultivated, weigh nearly a hundred pounds. 2. The purple plantain is of a very dark color about the upper part of the stalk, nearly black, the fruit (which I have never seen) I am informed by the people is of a very superior quality. 3. The horse plantain, the fruit of which is about nine inches long and nearly two inches in diameter, but not many on a bunch—will commonly weigh about thirty-five to forty pounds. 4. The sugar plantain, the fruit of which resembles that of the elephant plantain, except that the bunches are not more than

half the bulk, yet very sweet. 5th, is the common large yellow banana, with the black spotted stalk, fruit about five inches in length and from one-half inch to two inches in diameter—bunches will weigh with good culture sixty to sixty-five lbs. 6th, is the red banana, which has an appropriate name, for the stalk, fruit and all are red; the stalks of which grow quite large; the fruit five and a half inches long and one and a half inch in diameter—very delicious, have a blackberry flavor when ripe. 7th, is the silver banana, a delicate and sweet fruit, the smallest of all the banana tribe with which I am acquainted, it being between four and five inches long and only about an inch in diameter—quite white in color—whence its name. There is one more sort of banana, at Monrovia, which I wish to introduce, viz: the dwarf; but of its qualities I am unacquainted. I will remark, that as far as I have any acquaintance, our people on the coast have no knowledge of the two first kinds of plantain; for I found them in the Pessay Country only, and have forwarded them to the coast. The third and fourth are commonly known and raised extensively by our citizens, as also the yellow banana. But the red and silver banana were introduced by myself in the County of Grand Bassa, from Monrovia, out of Col. Yates' garden, who I think obtained them at Sierra Leone, and of course I have them in Pessay also; the latter of which has spread through the country pretty well already. As it is our object to sow all kinds of good and valuable seed broadcast, as also to have our farm or garden as perfect a model as practicable, exhibiting order and displaying plenty, we shall be very thankful to any kind friend to send us some good fresh seed from the southern part of the Union, as that of course is best adapted to this climate.

You will begin to think that I have forgotten the principal object of this

letter; but I will begin the important task, and in answer to the first question, I herewith give you a copy of our constitution, which expresses as fully our views as perhaps anything else I can say.

[We omit the publication of the fourteen articles of the constitution, (which relate very much to the details of management,) with the exception of the preamble and first three articles which declare the purpose, name and officers of the organization.]

"MAY 25, 1851.

"*Paynesville, Pessay Country.*

"PREAMBLE.—Whereas it appears that the time has come for the returned sons of Africa to do something for the recovery of their heathen brethren from a state of darkness, especially those interior of the Republic of Liberia, and we the undersigned, feeling deeply impressed with a sense of duty, have pledged and bound ourselves to be governed by the following constitution, being anti-sectarian in its principles.

"ART. 1. This Mission shall be called, or denominated, the Interior Mission—extending from the Republic of Liberia, its starting point being the city of Buchanan.

"ART. 2. The object of this Mission shall be to preach the Gospel of Christ to the heathen population, and to introduce among them arts and sciences and the blessings of civilization.

"ART. 3. The officers of this compact shall consist of a superintendent and two assistant superintendents, a secretary and treasurer, and three directors at each station, and the above named officers shall constitute a board of managers, two-thirds constituting a quorum for the transaction of business."

[The subsequent articles describe the duties of the superintendent, secretary, treasurer, and directors,

but the ninth article is too important to be omitted:

"ART. 9. All the real estate and improvements, as also personal property belonging to the Mission, will be turned over into the hands of any society or institution that will patronize the Mission in its operations, as the actual and real property of said society or institution, for mission purposes only."]

Thus, dear sir, you may be able to see our plan. I am anxious for some good, faithful colored brother to come and take possession of this station, and let me penetrate the interior yet further: for one of the important objects of our operations is the penetration of the interior indefinitely. I feel a full consecration to the work of God, and expect to push the work on from point to point, until we have encompassed a large section of country.

Another object we have, viz: to trade in barter with our people in aid of the work. Wherefore, any intelligent mind can see and discover that Africa has the means of her own redemption within her own grasp; but it will be worse than useless if not directed in the proper channel, which is our object. Thus there is a difference between us and the Liberian missionary in general; for some collect to house, but we wish to collect to scatter. Again, we wish our colored brethren in the United States to take this thing in hand; for as the preamble states, we believe the time has come for them to begin to send some blessings to their brethren in darkness. I have laid this matter before them, but heard no answer as yet; perhaps, however, you can get some good colored divines to look at the work, with a zealous desire of entering into it for the good of souls and the blessing of their fatherland.

I shall propose a union with the Young Men's Literary Institute of the city of

Buchanan; but such union will not exclude the co-operation of any society of good brethren of America. We want a start, and the means of continuance we will find in the country—for it is to be obtained, as we intend, under God, to produce our breadstuff, as also meat provision, on the soil:—it can be done, and must be done. And we further intend to produce our cotton for wearing apparel, which can be accomplished, and must be. I have a respectable cotton patch for trial, for this part of the country produces cotton to perfection, the staple of which is pronounced superior to American by those reared up in a cotton field from infancy. Our idea is, if a suitable number of the right kind of persons can be got and enlisted in this work, that Africa, dark, bleeding Africa, may not only hope, but see a bright day. And cannot Christians of every clime and name drop a tear, that her sins be blotted out! Pray, my dear friend, call mightily upon God for her still; your prayers have been heard—I am the result of one single answer.* Faint not; if no better are sent, some good will result; your pathetic appeal for Africa, years passed by, made the first awakening impression on my heart, delivering me from the pangs of halting and doubting as to a decisive mind about Africa. Is it too much to expect that I shall still be encouraged on to works of faith?

Sir, pardon me for wandering so far from the point; for I should have been to the promised task. Therefore, I proceed to the second answer, which regards our prospects.

I am happy to inform you that our prospects are as flattering as can be desired; for we expect an abundant harvest in due time. I doubt whether a mission was ever commenced with a brighter prospect—a general invitation is given—knowledge is wanted—the native mind is easily cultivated or trained, and a great anxiety

is manifest for civilized men to reside among these people. And thirdly;

As to the country, I would remark that I have seen and heard of no better. In this region the face of the country is undulating, presenting a most healthful aspect; heavily timbered, good for house and mill purposes; and every thing, in short, where timber is called into requisition; soil mostly of a sandy loam, productive of all tropical vegetation, as also varieties from the temperate zones; water as good as the best in the Union;—except your mineral, *their* equal doubtless may by discovery be found in this land of mystery.—The rock or stone consists principally of three kinds: 1st, the blue granite, like that at Monrovia; 2d, the gray or sand mixed formation; 3d, the iron ore:—the first two good for building, and in fact the latter may be employed in that way if persons have a fancy for that kind of material. I add, in answer to another question, that the following productions thrive well, viz: indian corn, rice, millet, or a kind of breadstuff having a stem like the corn stalk, with an ear on the top like puss-tail flag; and another kind much like the broom corn; sweet potatoes, yams, tania, egg-plant, cucumbers, arbor beans, tomatoes, radishes, mustard, pine apple, plantain, banana, guava, papaw, granadilla, orange, lime, lemon, cotton plant, indigo—common to this part of the country. The cola tree, (which acquires an enormous bulk, and produces abundantly a bitter nut much in request as an article of commerce, and an article, as I am informed, with which the long-horned bullocks are procured in great numbers interior of us, some six or eight days' travel;) peanuts, ———, blackeyed peas, coffee, cocoa for chocolate, a variety of pepper, some five or six different kinds of which may be found on the mission premises, and yet they are not all the country affords by many sorts, all of which I shall strive

to procure; shilots, or onions, are found in the country, better than I have seen raised on the sea-coast, some of which we have in our garden; there are many little herbs for salad, &c.; have no names by which I can give an idea, being no botanist; yet what I have said is enough to give an idea of an extensive variety. Therefore, in the fourth place—

I wish to say, that the people are a kind and peaceable race, industrious and ingenious, hospitable to strangers, but like all savages, revengeful to their enemies; yet for all that the headmen are very considerate about entering into important measures, easily governed, and quite affectionate to each other; while at the same time they are disposed to tricks of dishonesty to each other, and will take the advantage of strangers if they have an opportunity. In body they are robust, and much better proportioned than the Bassas; of about the same stature, wearing very little cloth as a common thing. I should not forget that their color is more generally inclined to a light brown than that of the Bassas; and those interior of us are still more so, as they are from a more northern district. Their food consists of rice principally; of course they make use of palm-oil, the palm tree being found throughout the country, so far as I have traveled. As it regards their knowledge of God, of course it is very indefinite; yet they all have some confused idea of a great first cause. But one thing I have observed very favorable to the spread of the gospel is, that this tribe are not given up to the use of the gregree or fetish, like the Bassas; and I have been in many a Pessay town and have yet to see a gregree house, while at the same time you hardly see a Bassa town without one, and many of the people having horns and trinkets about them, while it is a very rare occurrence to meet such things among the Pes-

says. A favorable omen, indeed! Some of them tell me of the Mohammedan worship among the tribes more to the north and east.

The Pessay is the only tribe that manufacture the iron, so far as I have seen, though it is said that some other tribes also work it. They spin the cotton and weave it into cloth, many samples of which you have doubtless seen on the coast while on your friendly visits among us. They make their clay bowls and pots, also pipes; all of which answer very well the purpose intended. Their habitations consist of mud-walled huts, very low, not allowing you to stand erect in them below, with thatched roofs, some square and others round, with projections, having the appearance of a huge mushroom. They are agriculturists in their general occupation; and they engage in the slave trade to a limited extent, as the chance of shipment is too uncertain for those on the coast to make a large demand; and in that one particular the Republic of Liberia has worked a revolution that is felt a great distance interior of us. Polygamy is practiced by this tribe, but they do not treat their women as uncharitably as the Bassas, but do more for them in the way of farming, for they cut the brushwood, and after burning char it up for planting in all cases, which is not done by the Bassas, except when the farm burns badly; they also cut the same farm over the next season, and sow rice and plant cassada,—a thing not done by the Bassas, except those near the Pessay tribe. In the circumstance of a person dying, they do not burn up the house of a dead person like the Bassas, nor do they remove away, but reside for many years in one locality, and for that purpose they build more substantial dwellings. Their implements of husbandry are the bill-hook, axe and hoe, and with these simple articles they do a great amount of labor.

I have seen here farms of many acres, cut and planted in rice, corn, cassada, &c.; and the largest farm I think would measure about forty acres, belonging to one or two persons of a town. The people about us trade in rice, camwood, and colas—fowls, sheep and goats, bullocks, some peanuts; they make palm-oil for their own use, but not for sale, except the little for us, which is much less than we want for table purposes; and the people interior of us trade in bullocks, cloth, sheep, goats, iron, &c., and take in exchange guns, powder, tobacco, crockery-ware, beads, cutlasses, foreign cloths. The European goods are best liked by both Bassas and Pessays, not on account of texture so much as their width, dye and figure or print, and in fact (strange as it may appear) they do not fancy the American goods as well as those above mentioned; and one reason they give is that the American goods are too heavy and strong, but the American musket, powder, and tobacco, and many other articles of trade are eagerly sought after by the tribes interior of the Republic. The habit of the African in general to wash frequently is proverbial: there is but little sickness among them, and they are quite expert in herb medicines; have their doctors, and they appear to be persons of considerable note, yet not to that degree as to assume the aspect of superstitious assurance. As I have intimated before, they have no form of religious worship, of course no priest.

As instruments of hunting and war they use the musket, arrow, spear, and knife or cutlass. For both hunting and war the arrow point is dipped in a deadly poison, the slightest scratch of which I am informed causes death; and they shoot with such precision and at such a distance that the victim is sure of a mortal wound, and this fact is too well known by the Bassas on the borders of the Pessay Country, to encourage them to provoke a war.

I should have mentioned before that this tribe cultivate a good quality of tobacco, the leaves of which I have measured and found them nine inches wide by eighteen long.

Thus upon the whole I consider this people an interesting tribe—for their aptness to learn is much in advance of the Bassas; and their dialect is peculiarly adapted to the articulation of English, and they speak it with a clearness that would deceive many an ear, not having that roll and grumble about it which belongs to the Bassa dialect, and they pride themselves in making efforts to speak the English, and are attentive at religious worship. The children acquire the knowledge of letters very fast.

So much, dear sir, for the people, and if you can collect an idea from these wandering remarks, I shall be compensated for the trouble, which is little in comparison to the design. Wherefore, I proceed to the fifth point:

The place of our residence, which is in and near about the centre of King Darply's dominions, some six hours walk from the last Bassa town on this route from the coast, and about a two hours and a half walk from the camwood forest—that is to say the wood between us and the said Bassa town, for there is no camwood growing immediately about this place, so that we have to go towards the sea to get the article, and take it on to market;—and we are about one day's walk from the first elephant range. Thus we have the ivory and wood behind us: and there are large numbers of elephants, as also other wild animals, of which I should have made mention before. Our dwelling, as I have said, is situated on a hill near the native town, but not near any water-course; yet we have a good spring, which affords an ample supply the year round. What I have before said of the soil, will satisfy you that our prospects are good for gardening and farming: and around us the

country is quite open, being cut down for farming purposes quite recently. This place is a good situation for a mission station only, for the simple reason that the supply of water is too scant. But I will remark at this period, that there are some of the most delightful locations for settlements that I have ever seen, in this king's domain, and some not more than three or four miles from our station, affording good water in abundance for all purposes, mills not excepted; as also timber of all dimensions and qualities that can be reasonably required. And may I add, that the country is well watered, but none standing in the condition of stagnant swamps, as near the sea-coast, being, as I have said before, rolling and of a mountainous character. The native town (the king's residence) is not large, but contains about a hundred inhabitants: this may appear strange, but it is accounted for when we remember the effect of the slave trade and continual wars of this region before the influence of the Republic extended so far; but the number of half-towns make good the defect, the inhabitants of which may by proper government be incorporated in one large town in the future. I hope in answer to this question I have anticipated your meaning and desires. Therefore to the SIXTH, as to distance from Monrovia and Bassa and Careysburg:—the distance from the two former places, as near as I can judge, in a direct course, is about a hundred miles—for to either place we can go in four days hard walk, but five or six days are commonly occupied in going to either. But from the latter place I can speak with less certainty, yet from the best information I can gather, we must be about two and a half to three days' walk from that place in an easterly direction—no one having come to our place from there as yet; still I shall not contend that my estimate of the distance is correct; I leave that to those more

competent to judge. I will add at this point of my communication, that we are further from the New Jersey Purchase than either of the former mentioned places, as we travel to the northeast leaving it entirely to our right, and receding from it at every step. The accompanying draft is an imperfect map of my route. As it regards the travel of a company of emigrants to our station, I think it could be accomplished in about six days if there were no feeble persons to be carried in chairs or hammocks. As it relates to the climate, I know the contrast to be great: here the climate is cool and salubrious, and considerably behind the seasons at Bassa—say some six or eight weeks,—and as I have intimated before, a healthy region; and what is desirable, the rainy season is not so heavy by one-third what it is at Bassa or on the coast, at any place I am acquainted with. The thermometer stands on an average at Bassa about 87° in the shade the year round, but here I am sure it would be much lower; for the same kind of clothing as is in use the latter part of the fall in New England is very acceptable at this place a good part of the year:—the coolest of which is experienced in the harmattan season; for speaking the truth, I do believe that a few degrees lower and we must have had frost. The hail-stones of this region are about the size of a pigeon's egg, and they cut the crops considerably. Such cool weather and large hail-stones, and so frequently, are not to be seen in Bassa: never did I see such cool weather, and but one or two instances of hail, the whole thirteen or fourteen years of my residence there. I am much in want of a thermometer.

It is my candid opinion, that a company of emigrants this distance out, would experience little inconvenience from the fever if they were prudent.

As to the country beyond us, we may travel any distance in safety, as far as we

have learned from our people, and they are acquainted with three other tribes interior of themselves; and it is a well known fact with us in this region, that the native African hails with joy the approach of a stranger to his country or possession.

You may have seen before this the passage of an act by the Liberia legislature at its last session, contemplating explorations and roads into the interior; which act was prompted, as you may have heard, by a petition from Bassa, which petition I penned and circulated and forwarded to the legislature, with the hope of a favorable notice by them—which hope was grounded upon a knowledge of the encouraging facts that there are no obstructions in the way. And I thank God I am hoping still further to be one in the grand contemplated scheme of interior exploration, to begin next November: still I do not presume to be able to give that satisfactory detail that could be reasonably looked for from a scientific individual. I make no pretensions to scholarship, being blessed with a spattering of common education, and that not to an enviable degree.

I now say, as it regards cloth manufactures, that I have never seen them, while it is a fact that there are many country or native weavers about us, and every weaver is a spinner I believe, but the reverse not so. No operations of the kind have been carried on since we have been here, so far as we could learn; and the only reason I can give for it is, that they find it much cheaper to take a half bushel of rice or a stick of camwood to the coast, and purchase foreign goods, which they like better, as I have said before, notwithstanding the texture is not as good by fifty per cent.; but the king informs me that there will be some weaving carried on soon, and that he will inform me and let me see the process, which I shall fully detail; but according to the information I can get from him it is much after our plan

of hand-weaving. The breadths of the cloth are about five inches—some plain brown, others variously striped, and some checked.

The horse is to be found within three days' travel of us, but the long-horned bullock much nearer, less than a day's walk; but within eight or ten days, they are to be found in enormous herds, as we are informed, and that too on a kind of prairie land. As to the asses, we can get little or no clear account:—that is one of the points of information left for ascertaining to the explorers. My mind is directed in that channel, for without animal power we shall ever be weak-handed. The wild ox or buffalo is about us, the tracks of which I have observed. They are considerably larger than the tame ox:—the bullocks can be purchased for about twelve dollars, and would weigh about two hundred pounds when dressed. The price of the horse I have not been able to ascertain, as none of those animals have been brought to this place or purchased by these people.

I will add, that the face of the country is not so uneven as to require cutting down or filling up for the purposes of a road, and an American path (as it is termed by the natives) would revolutionize the country if worked with energy and enterprise; for now the native population are but half supplied with the manufactures of other countries, and a small fraction of the valuable products of this country are taken to the sea-coast by the natives (the only beasts of burden in use now in this part of the country;) and all persons are acquainted with the indolence of the native African, and must from that knowledge, draw a conclusion not favorable to the growing enterprise of the age. I need not inform you, sir, that the repeated failures on the coast are the result of native management in the interior: whereas but reverse the thing, and the astonishing

change would seem a miracle. You may be assured that the Colonization plan could be carried on to an extent beyond the most sanguine expectations of its patrons, if they would but operate interior among the vast wealth of the country.—The single article of wood alone would far exceed the outlay of the Society:—and which is, as I have informed you in another place, between us and the coast: and if you had it to purchase, you could have it at your own price in almost all cases, for the difficulty and expense of carrying it to the beach on the backs of men, would induce them to take a pitance for it on the ground where it is cut, which would about pay them for the trouble of cutting it, or for the trees as they stand in the forest: for were I to have the transportation of it to the coast, I should prefer it longer than they cut it for market. I assisted some time ago in cutting up a tree, that made tolerably good turns or luggages for nineteen or twenty persons, which could be procured for about two dollars at the stump. This circumstance I mention to show the vast advantage an enterprising company of men could enjoy, provided with every necessary to prosecute the work with vigor:—And why not the Society enter into the plan with good faith? But perhaps you inquire whether the wood forest would in extent justify the requisite outlay. I answer, with confidence, Yes, sir; for I see the forests, and years will be required to exhaust them; for soon after the article is cut down, up it shoots again—(if a live tree.) If civilized men enter the business, they are but to cut the whole forest of other timber and let the camwood grow, which it would do much faster, and set out shoots of the tree, or young plants, in the spaces between the stumps, thus composing a valuable forest, and a good pasture for years—and for the first five years a good productive farm; for the soil

producing camwood presents the best character for fertility.

Again, there is the iron trade, which would be carried on to an extent in the interior that would justify a respectable investment; and the principal reason is, the cheapness of living and the great demand for iron ware, as also for tools, &c., and these articles are now supplied by foreign trading on the coast, to the coast tribes. In the third place, the article of breadstuff could be abundantly supplied to our citizens on the coast, to an enormous advantage; for at this present moment rice (the article referred to) is selling at four dollars per bushel, and every dollar on the coast is equal to two and two and a half bushels in the interior or at our place here; and perhaps it can be had cheaper still; for we have an established price, rating a certain quantity at fifty cents out here, but which cost on the coast about twenty-five or thirty, and in a majority of instances much less, as in the case of tobacco, pipes, beads, brass nails, brass and copper rods, powder, &c.; and as our people know nothing of dollars and cents, we have to deal with them to their understanding:—wherefore the native *bar* or *barr*, which in cloth is two yards, powder three-quarter pounds, tobacco, fifteen to twenty leaves or five heads, five pipes, twenty-five or thirty brass nails, (viz: trunk tacks,) one copper or brass rod, &c., from twelve to twenty strings of beads. Thus, sir, you may determine the gains and losses, and estimate pretty accurately the expenditure of the whole business; and, sir, let enterprise, industry, economy and honesty, be observed through the whole line of the work, and it must be a vast propelling machine to aid on the work of colonization—not to mention the cotton, peanuts, palm-oil, dye-stuffs, limes, hides, and very likely copper ore, with the more fascinating article, gold—which God grant may be kept hid a little longer, until moral power has a corrective preponderance in Africa, on this

part of it. Our ivory is not to be forgotten, nor bullock and horse trade, which would of course receive an impetus that would electrify the whole coast; and thus the wealth—now drained out of the Republic—be devoted to her redemption. And then, sir, could we not hope to perform noble deeds that would immortalise our names, and leave behind us monuments as lasting as the pyramids of Egypt.

Sir, let your tears dry with a hope that Africa shall be reclaimed, for God has proclaimed it, and Hell has disputed the claims of the conqueror to no purpose, for His army is on the glorious march; darkness is receding before the light; the bands of the strong-holds are giving way; her star has appeared and it foretells the approach of a glorious day, a happy period, a time when a nation shall be re-established, a time when the oppressor's cruel yoke shall be broken, a time when millions shall raise their voices high in praise to God, for raising up the Colonization Society. Therefore, sir, go on, and let your prayers be incessant at the Throne; let your faith, mighty faith, nerve you for double work, and take hold on God, and know that he is able to strengthen you for greater undertakings; and as you feel the pressure of labor, lean on Him that has sustained you for years, and feel the assistance of that faith which sends a glowing thrill through the whole soul of a benevolent man.

I will now stop this train of expression, for I find language too inadequate for thought, and proceed to my task; therefore, for the next consideration, relative to a road—in answer to which (having revolved the matter over in my mind) I have come to the conclusion that about three thousand dollars capital in America or Europe, expended at the rates before mentioned, in those articles, with the following addition, viz: as to these prices—American muskets, \$6; wash bowls, 50 cents; cutlasses, 40 cents; tobacco, \$20 to \$30 per hundred pounds; powder, \$25 to \$30

per barrel; and everything else in proportion—would, I consider, prepare a good road; for, as I have said elsewhere, that it wants little or no lowering or filling in the face of the country through which a road could be carried; and perhaps one bridge only, and that not longer than about four hundred feet. A large portion of the labor could be performed by the natives, at a small but just compensation, under—as it is useless for me to remark—the supervision of judicious managers; and the annual expense of repairs would be comparatively small, as the teaming would be performed mostly in the dry season, at which times the soil is dry and firm. The present foot path passes through a great flat of gravelly soil, which washes but little; and as the road could be directed through the forest, it would not grow up fast, and when once cut out, comparatively very little labor would cut it again—that is to say, if the grass, small bushes (sprouts of stumps) and weeds should spring up in the course of the rainy season, the amount of three to four hundred dollars would clear that away, and the progress of time would lessen the expense, as the passing to and fro of animals and wagons would destroy much vegetation.

As it relates to coffee, I am unable to judge as yet fully, but from the appearance of the few plants I have set out in our garden, I should conclude that coffee will do well here; for there are many forest trees that should be classed with that genus that thrive well; still I am not well enough acquainted with botanical science to come to a satisfactory conclusion on this subject. Suffice it to say, that every thing we have sowed or planted grows finely, and creates a wonder in the eyes of the beholder. I have already spoken of corn, and will just add that such is the flattering prospects of that article that we have concluded to put in a respectable crop. We have introduced seed, but none much better than we find in the country; as most of

our seed was from the north, whereas some from the south doubtless would be found better adapted to this climate.

I will now proceed to offer some few remarks upon the different topics that follow:—

1st, Missions; 2d, Interior Settlements; 3d, Agriculture; 4th, Commerce; 5th, Roads; 6th, Slave Trade.

As regards the first, I am happy to remark, that Africa presents to the Christian Church a vast field for mission enterprise, and the operation must be associated with the idea of hardships, privations, hazards, dangers and perils, with a fixed determination to meet all and brave them as sworn soldiers of the Cross, with a glorious view of certain victory; notwithstanding you may be as but a link in the chain of Providence to bring about the predicted event, that Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands to God. You may fall in the field, but you have the shield of faith by your side; you die without the prospect or sight, but the great transaction is in view, hung up on the promises of God—facts sufficient to support the feeblest of God's children in the great conflict with the powers of darkness. Therefore I cannot understand why the various mission boards in the Union do not send their laborers out into the highways and hedges, and call and invite the lost of Israel. How is it that so much is given for the poor African, and so few of the poor Africans get it directly; and the number that get it indirectly, is too small to justify the present position of things, and allows the almost inactive life of some of these men justifiable, in view of the vast hordes of ignorant native inhabitants whose condition calls loudly for the bread of life. I inquire again, how it is possible that they can solicit donations on the plea of the native Africans, at the same time that the African never hears or sees him or them who should be sent by these means. Again, sir, has not the time come when the christian world should

know how these mites are disbursed? Is the question out of place to inquire if Africa is yet to be the pretext for ease and luxury? is it a fact that one mission board alone has some twenty-two or three men, or more, and not one of that number is beyond two days' walk from a civilized settlement? Whereas if they were some three or four or five days interior, they would be beyond many bad influences, for they would be situated among what may be termed the primitive inhabitants, simple and kind, unused to many vices too well known among those on the coast—and they would be more central; thus the rays of light would expand either way: they would be more disposed to industry. The Libe-rian mission cottage or dwelling is now too much the nursery of idleness; notwithstanding they will give a flourishing report, but in many cases I am apprehensive that it is a report like a shell without a kernel. By their being interior, they would exert an influence against the war-like disposition of the sea-coast tribes: thus a great saving to government; and in the second place, they would aid the commercial interest of their fellow-citizens. [There is, at least, implied here a censure which we trust is not deserved. It must be set down to the writer's zeal for missions to the interior.] If they were interior, the native would be instructed as to the fact that we are one people, and his mind would begin to expand rapidly at the sight of a living proof of his own capability. If they were interior, they would be acting in obedience to the great commission: Go and preach my Gospel to every creature; which has the same force and meaning now that it had the day it fell from the lips of the Son of God; and the like condition of men make it as imperative a duty now as then; and His promise that he will be with them unto the end is yet good—Glory be to God—and his spirit will accompany their labors as much now as then, and they will have the aid of his

grace now as then; and it requires the same kind of apostolic zeal now as then—particularly for Africa—the want of which may be a reason that no more is accomplished for this land of death-like shadows by the professed disciples of Jesus. Dear Sir, you may begin to conceive a notion that I wish to find fault with my brethren in the ministry in Liberia; but, sir, not so; yet I would have them to arise in one unbroken phalanx, and possess the land; It can be done;—let us have the men and a little means, and Africa shall be beset on every side with heralds of the Cross; but they must be men fully devoted to the cause, fully consecrated to the work; men like some of the modern worthies that have passed to their reward above, from India and Greenland, or the Isles of the sea. Sir, there can at this instant be found thousands of mission stations, and they can be occupied on the same self-sacrificing principle of our mission here: and who cannot at once discover the important result? The set time to favor the interior of Liberia with missions has come; the people are calling for the man of God; their arms are extended to receive their brother. The call is universal; and will not the church heed the sign?

In the second place, relating to Interior Settlements, I would urge almost the same reasons as those for missions, with the addition, that it will be a powerful preventive against our people running into extremes of idleness, vice, and perhaps crime in the long run. Every settlement could be the place for a mission station or stations:—and by the bye, the settlement could be a large mission operation, on a self-supporting principle:—in the settlement the shuttle could be worked, and the anvil made to disturb the stillness of the African vales, the furnace compel the mountains and hills to disgorge their rich treasures of everlasting deposit;—the churches send up their spires amidst the towering forest in bold relief, and in

demonstration of the fact that God designs to dwell in this land of death. Sir, this can be done, but it requires faith and works to go hand in hand; judiciously united it will be accomplished. Therefore, in the first place, let a few select men come interior—say a hundred and fifty or two hundred miles—begin the foundation in some choice location, in the long-standing undisturbed forest, where of course they can have every advantage of a choice in timber, &c., having regard to good water privileges—not to say good water, for there is none other in the interior that I have met with. Let them put up a block house of good dimensions, for the tolerable accommodation of the first band of men, who of course would reside in it until they get up their own dwellings, into which they would go, making room for a reinforcement; and so on, company after company, until the settlement assumed the aspect of an interior town. Let the settlement be laid out so as to allow each person—head of a family—a town lot of one acre, (for less would cripple their operations, as it would require all of that much land to afford the proper aid to a settler, so that he would not be obliged to go a great distance for land to cultivate, by which means of course the place must be weakened if they scattered.) Let the streets be shaded with ornamental and fruit trees; enclose the lots with growing fences; reserving the lots for vegetables for table use, it being a great saving to the owner. The town to be of that size to give it the appearance of a city in the process of time; for it will be a place of common resort for many of our people on the coast who are now in a destitute condition: it will create the necessity of a good road, and be an influence to keep the road open, as it will of course be a place of much commerce. The residence will be in the region of the long-horned bullock and horse, so that they would of course procure them as soon as practicable, and subject them to draft. The native

population would have multiplied demonstrations of the feasibility and blessings of civilized life:—thus life and light would spread, from such a centre, with such power that they would not be able to withstand; their heathen rites and practices would give way, and improved habits take their place;—and who cannot see the savage converted into a man of reason and justice. But, sir, do not forget that the founders should be, if possible, praying men—men who fear God, who feel bound to do justice to their fellow men irrespective of his condition or character. A city or town that distance interior would be in one of the most healthy locations in the world; and therefore there is every thing to promise success.

In the third place, I would remark, that the agricultural interest of the Republic would be enhanced by interior operations: for, in the first place, the resident is beyond the inducements to enter into trade, as encouraged on the coast; for every intelligent mind can see that it will require an outlay beyond the ability of ordinary individuals, and that very fact will secure that branch to a few who may be capable to prosecute it with vigor—a condition of things that should characterize every prosperous community. In the second place, they would be in that part of the country where the cotton-plant grows most luxuriantly and assumes the character of a good sized tree, producing the best staple in the world:—and who does not know that Liberia must be a manufacturing country before she can be out of the bounds of imposition; and the whole world may send their surplus cloth goods to Africa for many years yet, and still the cry will be, not enough. Agriculture, as conducted in Liberia at this period, taxes the energy of but a few; whereas, to be profitable every thing should be cultivated that will add to the comfort of a people—and for two important reasons for Liberia: and that is, first, it will save a very heavy outlay for foreign articles an-

nually; and in the second place, it will afford the means of public improvement. Whereas, the present state of affairs is an inducement to indulgence, and in process of time perhaps to crime; and nothing will, in my humble opinion, so soon and so effectively revolutionize the present condition of things in Liberia as the pursuit of agriculture in the interior. These elevated, healthy, cool, and salubrious regions are well-adapted, very likely, for the introduction of a large variety of grains, vegetables and fruits: for it is admitted that Africa is one of the garden spots of the world; and that every thing can be procured from the soil, that a reasonable body can want in this climate, is beyond dispute, and that too in superabundance.

In the fourth place, I would remark, that the commercial interest of Liberia is in a precarious state, and the causes of the present condition of things have indirectly been mentioned in one or two places in this communication; but here I will notice them more particularly. You must be aware, sir, that our citizens are too generally disposed to mercantile pursuits, and that, too, to the almost total neglect of the soil; thus their dependence has been on foreign enterprise, which of course has had its fluctuations, both as it regards missions and commerce, and many of our people have been schooled so as to pay homage to the fountain, while they have in heart become considerably detached from their own country; and the consequence is that many good meaning men have become effeminate and weak about home interests and welfare; and this kind of influence is becoming the mould in which a young Liberian mind is impressed, and the result will be of course foreigners in sentiment (in a greater or less degree) in and among the body of our citizens. And do you inquire the reason that the imprint is so easily made? I answer, that the young have had so little to inspire their hopes, but left dependent upon a barter trade,

they want means of beginning business, and little is accomplished by our best young men; which adds another regretted result, viz: the waning of our commercial interest in the estimation of our foreign friends; and this is about the state of things as it relates to commerce in the Republic, and the suffering must be in proportion to the time this state of things is continued; unless we go into the soil for relief, or into the interior to recover from the powerful back-set in commerce. And shall I say too much if I add the remark, that the Colonization Society has it in her power to apply a remedy, a conclusion to which I arrive from the numerous facts, which show my opinion is not unfounded, and the prosperity of Liberia must for years to come rely mainly upon emigration, and directed to the interior, where necessity will act as the mother of invention, indeed, and they will be out of the influence of foreign competition, which is now creating distress on the sea-coast, simply because our citizens will not begin to produce for themselves in some instances, and in others they are unable to meet the demands made on them.

Thus we may see the great importance of a road interior for the purpose of speedy transportation; and in the first place, let the present foot-path be selected, and run the road with it, making a cutting and clearing of about twelve to fifteen feet wide, and the co-operation of the various head men on the road through whose dominions it would run, can be secured by establishing a family at the head men's towns, and at the same place put a trading-house, to monopolize the trade of the country, which of course will aid in defraying expenses, if not wholly supporting the system; and in case of emigrants, each station will be a resting-place, as also a lodging accommodation: as doubtless you would erect a comfortable dwelling at each depot, and furnish each depot with an ox or horse team, that luggage might be passed through

the line with speed, and that, too, on the stage route plan; or, to speak more plainly, have a fresh team every day: therefore of course a deal of labor could be performed in a short time. Let every station be a mission residence; let your men cultivate the soil, and let them do all the good they can for the welfare of the heathen, and then they will secure the good will of the native inhabitants—secure peace to the surrounding country, give life to agriculture (as you will require a large quantity of rice,) as also advance commerce. And why not each place, so begun, be the beginning of a flourishing settlement? I wish to inquire, if it is not possible to make a selection of a number of about twenty-five or thirty men with families, to engage expressly in this work, with and under a judicious leader, giving them an interest for a certain length of time, at a small salary a year, and percentage on trade, perhaps: find them in food and clothing; let them be furnished with implements and tools of every kind, for the purpose of prosecuting the work; and if they are distributed along the line for the term of service, and wish to go to the interior settlement, let others take their places. Thus keep up a line of operations for a few years, and the Society will begin to make Africa aid in the removal of her own children, (for the work is great,) and if the Society should adopt such a plan, it would be well to have the company of men chartered, with exclusive privileges, with a capital of fifty or a hundred thousand dollars, which capital may very soon appear in good dwellings and improvements at each station, upon which a proper estimate should be put. The character of the Society would assume a different aspect to the world, and commence a new era in its history; and this large amount can be secured in a very short space of time, if the proper kind of men can be employed: and who cannot see but that it must add to the strength of the Society, and also do for Liberia what she perhaps feels too weak

to do for herself, yet if the example is once set she will soon follow—for Liberia's hope is interior and in the soil.

In the sixth, and last consideration, I will remark, that the supply of victims for the slave trade goes from the interior, and every person must see that if any influence can be exerted to check it on the spot, that it will do best; and I know of no step to be taken so effectual as to substitute legitimate commerce for the dreadful traffic. *

* * Civilized settlements in the interior will have a lasting influence on the trade towards checking it; and I would, for that one thing alone, be willing to spend my days (if I had a hundred lives) in the interior of Africa, for it is the very work that calls forth all the tender sympathies of humanity. On its account I have lost sweat and blood, and now shall my prayers constantly ascend the skies.

I have sketched off something which I am fearful will give you no adequate idea of what you seek after, and if it does not, please to be plain, and let me know, and I will renew the effort in future. * * *

I have informed the head-men of my purpose of writing to you, and requested them to do the same, for missionaries and people to make a tour to their place; and I feel confident to recommend those whose names are attached to the document, as possessing situations or locations suitable for settlements; and do hope that the step taken by them will aid the cause, as the Society must see the disposition of the aborigines to welcome their brethren home again. I will drop the hint that a piece of tobacco, or beads, or brass nails, or any kind of crockery ware, iron pots, tin ware, second hand clothing, or cheap cloth, will be an acceptable offering to our mission in aid of the work of God; for at this time, we are unable to maintain any children for schooling on account of want of means, which will take much less, however, than nearer the coast—a circumstance worthy consideration as an argument for interior

work. Our colored brethren can do much for us if they would, for they need not confine themselves to new articles alone, as anything is passable out here; and they should be interested; and the little that might be given by young men and women at service, would not be felt by them, while it would swell to a large bulk, and accomplish much for Africa. Those in employ would give their many articles which they may consider useless, but which will perform a good act at our place, for with us gold and silver are of no value until taken to the coast again. Thus may I not hope for your influence to begin a little society of choice men among our people in Washington, for the aid of this interior work; as the business of missions here can only be prosecuted by men whose constitutions are adapted to the climate. A country without the christian religion interwoven into all its pursuits, is on precarious ground.

And now, dear sir, I do not know that I can add more of the like rambling stuff; thus I close with a prayer, and hope that a thought, an idea, or conception, may be the result of the perusal of these sheets; and that you will make due allowances, pardon all mistakes, and feel free to give me your advice and good counsel.

I therefore subscribe myself your humble and obedient servant,

GEO. L. SEYMOUR,

Super't of the Interior Mission.

Rev. R. R. Gurley.

P. S.—I herewith enclose the petition of the head-men as mentioned above.

CAMWOOD FOREST, PESSAY COUNTRY,
August 13th, 1857.

Dear Sir:—Hearing of your kind wishes and desires for our much injured country, and your expectations to send some good Americans among us to reside, we felt it but duty to say, that we shall hail the event with joy and gladness; for we are destitute, and it appears that no man has

regard for us except a good man now residing among our Pessay brethren, who feel blessed by his presence, and he is a blessing to them. We, your humble servants, think and feel that a similar person among us will be a blessing to us also. We, your humble servants, are willing to do all we can to aid in the matter, to the full extent of our ability. We have good land, with good timber and water, and rock for buildings for Americans; and we are willing to give a tract of land for an American settlement, and aid in getting the people out, and have our people raise rice, corn and cassada, that they may purchase produce cheap. As for wood, bullocks, sheep, goats, and fowls, we will try and put them in the way to be supplied. We want Americans with us to learn us and our people in arts and sciences and letters, and above all, the Christian religion.—Therefore we hope you will take our case into consideration, and give us a favorable answer; as prays your humble and obedient servants, the undersigned.

his
BAREER X TREE,
mark.

his
KAPAWGOODY X
mark.

DARPLY PESSAY KING.

P. S.—The above names are men of reliable character, as far as I have known them, and have had many transactions with them, and I know that they are able to perform what they promise, and have confidence that they will perform what they have promised. Their locations are so similar to what I have described, that you may be satisfied without further information on the subject; they each have people enough to move out a small emigration, with all their baggage, at once; and they reside three days and three days and a half from the coast; and all are Bassa men, except King Darply, with whom I reside. By reference to the map, you will see their places marked with a cross; and I do hope that if the Society can give a favorable notice that they will do so. You shall have the little influence I can exert.

Believe me your humble servant,

G. L. S.

N. B.—I have inquired of Kapawgoody, and he informs that he is ready to erect six good comfortable country-constructed houses, for the accommodation of a small company of emigrants, if he is favored with very little aid, say about ten or twelve dollars each. Of course they would require doors and windows, which would have to be furnished by Liberian labor, but the bulk he will do.

[Continued from page 365—Vol. XXXIII.]

Voyage to Liberia.

BY DR. JAMES HALL.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NEW SETTLEMENT—ARRIVAL AT MONROVIA.

As said in our last, we left Cape Mount on the evening of the 22d January; we left there some eighty of our two hundred emigrants, and there also we left the hearts of some eighty more—for never were any poor wanderers for a home more fascinated with a place, than were our emigrants with Cape Mount. Of those whom we did leave there, several had been manumitted on

condition of going to Liberia, and they embarked not with the view of permanent settlement, but to gain their freedom, and determined on remaining on board the ship, and returning to the United States. But when they had spent a few hours on shore, they changed their minds and decided on permanent settlement. We found it very difficult to persuade many who were destined

for Monrovia to remain on board till we reached that place, so much were they charmed with Robertsport and the surrounding country. This was particularly the case with those intended for the interior settlement, of which it will be necessary to speak, as that formed one of the main features of the voyage.

Those familiar with the operations of the Colonization Society for the past two years, will remember, that an interior settlement had been decided upon, to test its salubrity in comparison with that of the coast towns. The Rev. Mr. Seys, so well known, from his long connexion with the African Missionary and Colonization Societies, was appointed by the Board of Directors to visit Liberia, and select some suitable point in the interior, within the influence of its government, and prepare for the accommodation of a certain number of unacclimated emigrants. He left the United States in May, in the ship *Elvira Owen*, and it was expected that he would be ready to receive emigrants at the point selected, by the arrival of our expedition. After leaving port, among sundry resolutions of the Executive Committee of the American Colonization Society, transmitted to us, we found one, authorizing us to select a certain number of suitable persons from among the emigrants for the new settlement. This was very good, so far as the *authority* went, but the time had gone by, in which these people were to be *selected from* or *penned up*, or *disposed of* in any way. They had all been told that, when once in Liberia they would be free, and their first idea of freedom seemed to be, to go just where they pleased—and a very natural idea too. With the view of carrying out the wishes of the Society, we made it our business to study

the people on board, their characters, capacities, habits, hopes, associations, &c. We found most of them with large family connexions, at least the better part, those whom we might hope to persuade to a good thing, or who were fitted to form the nucleus of an isolated settlement. And for a time, we had little hope of being able to separate different members of any family, particularly to remove from it the young and healthy males, who alone would answer the purpose. Fortunately, Mr. Rives of Albemarle County, Va., had given two of the principal men of the family from his neighborhood, letters of introduction to us; without this, most likely, we should have failed in inducing any sufficient number of suitable persons to engage in the desired enterprise. As it was, we gained the confidence of these men, Douglass and Walker, who might be termed the heads of this family. Douglass had for years acted as the overseer, agent, and in fact general advising friend of his master, and was a man of no common order: unfortunately, however, without even the rudiments of education. After many and earnest consultations, Douglass agreed to go if it would be safe for his wife and children, and if another woman could also be induced to go with her. Walker consented that his boys and others of their associates, over whom he had great influence, should go, Douglass being leader. Another man of the same family, Barrett, concluded to go with his wife and two children, also a very gentlemanly and pious old man by the name of Garner. But it was not until the morning after we left Cape Mount that the business was concluded and the party willing to give in their names and bind themselves to the contract. The conviction that all was *fair* and

true in the Society's dealings with them, was only produced by a visit to Cape Mount, and witnessing how the people were taken care of. The settling of this business was a great relief to us: its failure would have involved great useless expenditure and disappointed the anxious wishes and expectations of many friends.

This matter off our minds, and Cape Mesurado but a few hours distant, we soon became absorbed in the past. The first voyage we ever made to Liberia became most prominent in our recollections. It was twenty-five years since, in the little schooner *Orion*, with a small band of emigrants. As strange as it may seem, we then visited Africa for health. We had been for years an invalid, had spent two seasons in the West Indies—had come to the conclusion that we could not live, certainly not enjoy life, out of the tropics; and finding no place where we could more likely be useful than in Liberia, determined upon making that our home for a season, or, as we then thought, for life, which promised not to be of long duration. It may therefore be reasonably supposed, that the mere prospect of again visiting this scene, of our early or long past labors, was a period of the deepest interest to us, that it stirred us up from the inmost: but we will not sentimentalize. We must, however, both now and all along, speak of Liberia, of men and things, comparatively, having long been so intimately connected with it and its people, that we cannot be supposed to speak as a stranger, to give first impressions of any thing, but of the present in comparison with the past. The view of Cape Mesurado, from whatever point is extremely beautiful and imposing—from some, particularly in the moonlight and a few miles distant, it presents the appear-

ance of a crown or elevated walled city. Fronting on the harbor or roadstead, westerly, it is bold and abrupt, the highest part elevated some three or four hundred feet from the water; although rocky from the base, it is yet covered with heavy forest timber, interwoven with thick undergrowth and creeping parasites. The Cape itself appears very much as it did a quarter of a century ago. The old block houses of Ashmun are at present merely supplied by a poorly constructed lighthouse. The north and easterly sides of the Cape are covered with the town of Monrovia, much of which can be seen from the inner anchorage, and is vastly improved since our first visit, although it seems but a forest town as yet, owing to the many fruit, forest and shade trees intermixed. But the condition of things in the harbor or roadstead presented the greatest contrast. Now, there lay here some four or five regular foreign traders, making this their main port of business, also two good-sized merchant vessels, or coasters, under the Liberian flag; and here, too, was the national vessel of war, or *Garda Costa*, the *Lark*. In the river, too, lay several small Liberian coasters. On coming to anchor here in 1831, we found only two vessels, half dismantled, apparently deserted; and so they were—most of the crews having gone to that country whence there is no return. They were vessels trading up the rivers *Nunez* and *Pongas*, and only came down to the then new American Colony for medical aid and relief of various kinds. At the request of the captain we visited one, and found only himself, two men and cabin boy, alive, and they in a state of great debility. The vessel had just arrived in port, and not yet received assistance from shore. The cabin boy

seemed to be suffering most, giving indication that something under his body caused him great pain. On turning him over, we found near half a pint of black ants, with which the ship was filled, embedded in his flesh, on which they were feeding. A more shocking sight we never witnessed, and only mention it to show what African traders endured in olden times, when the love of gain tempted owners to send their vessels into the rivers. We are glad to say, this trade is almost entirely abandoned now, or made less hazardous by the relief readily obtained from Liberia. We remember, too, a few days after we went on shore, seeing a vessel in the offing, with sails flapping, and apparently not under steerage-way. The governor dispatched a boat, and found her to be a Philadelphia brig, under command of Captain Sharp. He had lost all his crew in the rivers, and attempted to reach Monrovia by aid of Kroomen alone. He kept up till within sight of the Cape and then dropped at the helm. The vessel was brought into port, the captain saved, and a new crew shipped. Such were some of the features of the *legitimate* African trade, a quarter of a century since.

On coming to anchor about 11 o'clock on the morning of the 23d January, we soon found that our arrival had been long anticipated, as boats from the vessels in harbor and from shore at once centred upon us in numbers, among which we soon noticed two bearing in *legitima* of office: one containing the boarding officer from the custom-house, and the other an officer from the Government cutter Lark: each mounting just enough of yellow buttons and lace to indicate their official capacity. We were pleased to note the etiquette observed by the masters of the other boats; no one

presumed to mount the sides of the ship till the boarding officer had been received, and then one, who was looking for a long-absent friend on board, was ordered peremptorily off, till the officer had left the ship or dispatched the mail on shore, that being one of their custom-house regulations.

But little time was lost in observing officials, or even in receiving the greeting of friends. It was Saturday afternoon, and we had predetermined that the emigrants should be on shore before Monday morning, bag and baggage. We had advised Mr. Dennis, the agent of the Society, by note, of our intent, while running in for the anchorage and received an answer informing us of his readiness to receive them. Accordingly, as soon as the boarding officer gave us liberty to land, the boats were all manned by the first Kroomen we could secure, and under-way for the shore, with Africa's returning children—and happy, joyous children they were; for no one ever yet left the side of a vessel with regret, after a six weeks' voyage. The captain of the ship being on shore to undergo the regular form of entry, we took charge of loading the boats with emigrants. It seemed like old times, this driving, scolding, and shouting to the Kroomen and emigrants, now coaxing this timid female over the vessel's side, now slinging down that urchin by one limb to its expectant parent, half agonized for fear it will fall into the water. Now hallowing to the Kroomen to keep the boats clear of the side, now pitching some reluctant gawky into the boat, who had blocked up the gangway a half hour to be delivered of a few last words. It was an afternoon of hard work, bustle and excitement; but by sunset the coast was clear, the emigrants ashore and the boats

hauled up on the beach or anchored inside the river; and the first time for many a long day and evening, quiet reigned on board our good ship: the few that remained, destined for the interior settlement, tired of the noise and bustle, soon disappeared below. To most on board it was an evening for reflection, and the night one of repose—but not so the latter to us. Although fatigued with the bodily labor of the day, there was too much of mental excitement, from causes many and various, to allow of the balmy influences of sleep. Independent of unpleasant tidings which had reached us of the war at Cape Palmas, and other matters of the like character, the first night under the shadow of Cape Mesurado, after an absence of fifteen years, could not be devoted to sleep. The mind had a long range of time to traverse and a countless multitude of events to recall, and many scenes of general and personal interest to live through again, during the early hours of the night. Towards morning, in a kind of half somnambulistic state, we went through nearly the same process, each event accompanied with many fantastic variations, all no doubt greatly condensed in time, although it seemed ages to us.—With these imaginings we will not trouble our readers; it is sufficient to say that we woke out of them in a violent struggle with old King Freeman and Yellow Will, demanding their town back which our people had burned; Mr. Seys engaging in the scuffle to hold on to his new town of Careysburg. However, the morning dawned hazy and lazy, as every thing else dawns and yawns of a Sunday in Africa. For the first time since leaving America we failed of punctuality at breakfast, and were rather late getting on shore, enduring as compensation a long

hot row at the hottest part of the day, between the land and sea breezes. As said above, we must, almost of necessity, speak of things comparatively—not a step could we take in all our visit to Liberia, without being reminded how this was a quarter of a century since. This Sunday we were at liberty to go on shore and greet our friends. The Sunday which first dawned upon us in African waters twenty-five years ago, we spent in that roadstead, assisting one of our emigrants in tendering to her new country a pair of healthy returning Africans, and attending to the poor ant-eaten boy and other sufferers on board the brig. As we entered the river on our first visit, only one or two houses on the top of the hill appeared in view—Ashmun's old fort with the three "Martello towers" crowned the summit—not a shanty under the hill, or even an apology for a wharf to land on. Now the hill-side was adorned with many dwellings and stores, some very imposing: the old fort had given way to the Wesleyan High School—and the water-side was lined with wharves and warehouses. We were greeted on landing by our old friends, the Messrs. McGills, and others, and conducted to an elegant and costly mansion, the residence of one of the brothers. After an hour's rest, which we all really needed from the long pull through the bar, the hill and the sun, we put forth for church—"The Protestant Episcopal Church of Liberia," we presume, at any rate the edifice was Liberian enough, and the service Episcopal. We have an impression that the church was of stone, very roughly built, of one story, and nothing to distinguish the exterior from an ordinary dwelling. The interior consisted of one room, not exceeding in dimensions 20 by 30 feet, very likely not that,

furnished with a few wooden benches with backs, very plain but comfortable, presnning each one to be supplied with private cushions.—The room was Episcopalized by a wooden screen, behind which the pastor could do whatever is usually done in church vestrys. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. Alexander Crummell, a well educated gentleman, and a coal-black man. Our Liberian readers must excuse our allusions to the color of the skin, which we shall often have occasion to do, as the uniform inference among Americans is, that in case any one is found in Liberia possessed of even ordinary intellectual powers, he must, of necessity, have *some* white blood in his veins. Mr. Crummell read, or performed, or conducted, which ever may be the more proper term, the Episcopal service *well*. *Well* is the word, but in a sense admitting of no *better* or *best*. His sermon, too, was one of the best we ever heard, and delivered, as he read the service, well. The number in church was 26, of whom three were passengers by our ship, our own party; so that the inference is, Mr. Crummell's preaching, good as it is, from some cause, is not destined to affect many in Liberia. After church, we took a stroll through the town of Monrovia, with the first view of which, we must confess, we were not a little disappointed. Hearing for fifteen years of the great improvement of the place generally, and of this and that dwelling or public edifice in particular, we were led to anticipate a better and more city-like appearance. The main difference in the general features of Monrovia now and on our last visit in 1840, consists in the substitution of some ten or a dozen expensive brick dwellings for about as many less expensive ones of wood and stone: of

several stone fences or walls for gardens and lots, instead of wooden ones; a few good public buildings, the principal of which is the High School before mentioned. The town has extended considerably down the hill towards the river, and also westerly on the Cape, but it seemed to us rather to contract in other directions, certainly not to extend. We missed many dwellings on several streets, the places of which have not been supplied by others. To a stranger, we should think Monrovia would present an untidy, unsocial, unvillage or uncitylike aspect. The streets are very wide and much overgrown with grass, weeds, and even bushes, through which there are winding paths worn into the turf, by man and beast; in the rainy season or in morning's dew, it must be difficult for females to walk with dry skirts, certainly if hooped. In olden times, when riding an ass, performing our professional duties, we were obliged to elevate our limbs when either dew or rain saturated vegetation. Although the place may be said to be new, or comparatively so, yet, from the continued heat and extreme moisture of the climate, there is an air of decay on almost all wooden structures, and even on those of stone. The condition of many slightly made fences and old rented and uninhabited houses, add much to this appearance. What is strange, too, for so new a place, we noticed several walls of stone houses either unfinished or the wood part burnt out—covered with vines and mosses, apparently relics of centuries. Fortunately for the Monrovi-ans, most of the town was well paved when the Cape was upheaved from the ocean, so that they are not incommoded by mud; however that could easily be avoided by walking on the grass, which almost entirely

covers the unenclosed ground, called "street." Some parts of the town admit of a more favorable description, say the few squares in the immediate vicinity of the President's mansion. On approaching this spot, we missed the old Government House, the residence of all the United States and Society's agents, from Ashmun down to Buchanan. Here we found Mechlin and Russwurm domiciled, and here we spent near three years of our invalid, professional life. It pained us somewhat not to see the old broad-spreading roof and double piazza. It seemed as if half of the Liberia whom we once knew, had departed. The lot on which it stood, and several adjoining ones, form a public square, in the centre of which is a neat and substantial monument, dedicated to that old able counselor and brave soldier, Elijah Johnson, the man on whom the colony depended for defence in its early years, more than on *any other one*

man. Speaking of Mr. Johnson's monument, reminds us of an idea which struck us very forcibly while in Monrovia, and that is, the erection of a Battle Monument, or a monument commemorative of the first battle between the colonists and native tribes, on Cape Mesurado: when a handful of brave men, under Ashmun, repulsed and put to flight some thousands of ruthless barbarians, determined upon the destruction of the then infant settlement. It should be a national monument, and on it should be inscribed the names of all those who there battled for freedom. No place could be better fitted for it, than on the very highest point of land or rock in Monrovia, at the crossing of two principal streets, within a few feet of the battle-ground, on the very spot where old Johnson regained possession of the big gun the savages had captured. Something of this kind should be done.—*[Md. Col. Journal.]*

[From the Maryland Colonization Journal.]

A Lawyer for Liberia.

ON the sailing of almost every expedition we have had occasion to chronicle the departure of missionaries, teachers, or a physician, but not until the present time, that of a lawyer. The souls and bodies of the emigrants have been well cared for; now, it is no doubt supposed, they require assistance in guarding their money, civil rights, &c. Most professional emissaries have been educated at public expense, either by Missionary or the Colonization Societies, but the first lawyer goes out independent of any associated aid. Mr. Garrison Draper, a colored man of high respectability, and long a resident of Old Town, early determined on educating his only son for Africa. He kept him at

some good public school in Pennsylvania till fitted for college, then sent him to Dartmouth, where he remained four years and graduated, maintaining always a very respectable standing, socially, and in his class. After much consultation with friends, he determined upon the study of law. Mr. Chas. Gilman, a retired member of the Baltimore Bar, very kindly consented to give young Draper professional instruction, and for two years he remained under his tuition. Not having any opportunities for acquiring a knowledge of the routine of professional practice, the rules, habits and courtesies of the Bar, in Baltimore, Mr. Draper spent some few months in the office of a distinguish-

ed lawyer in Boston. On returning to this city to embark for Liberia, he underwent an examination by Judge Lee of the Superior Court, and obtained from him a certificate of his fitness to practice the profession of law, a copy of which we append hereto.

We consider the settlement of Mr. Draper in the Republic as an event of no little importance. It seemed necessary that there should be one regularly educated lawyer in a community of several thousand people, in a Republic of freemen. True, there are many very intelligent, well informed men now in the practice of law in Liberia, but they have not been educated to the profession, and we believe, no one makes that his exclusive business. We doubt not but they will welcome Mr. Draper as one of their fraternity. To our Liberia friends we commend him as a well-educated, intelligent man, of good habits and principles; one in whom they may place the fullest confidence, and we bespeak for him, at their

hands, kind considerations and patronage.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
City of Baltimore,

October 29, 1857.

Upon the application of Charles Gilman, Esq., of the Baltimore Bar, I have examined Edward G. Draper, a young man of color, who has been reading law under the direction of Mr. Gilman, with the view of pursuing its practice in Liberia, Africa. And I have found him most intelligent and well informed in his answers to the questions propounded by me, and qualified in all respects to be admitted to the Bar in Maryland, if he was a free white citizen of this State. Mr. Gilman, in whom I have the highest confidence, has also testified to his good moral character.

This Certificate is therefore furnished to him by me, with a view to promote his establishment and success in Liberia at the Bar there.

Z. COLLINS LEE,
Judge of Superior Court, Balt., Md.

The Ashmun Institute.

WE have observed the rise and progress of this seminary with pleasure, not only because of our attachment to the name it bears, but from a deep sense of its importance to the improvement of our colored population and to the civilization of Africa. The great need to Africa is for intelligent and well educated men of color, cherishing an apostolic spirit and willing to go forth and consecrate themselves to the instruction of her people. For such men of color there is open, in that country, a boundless field of honor and usefulness. Such men, inspired by heroic desires and the spirit of Christ, will achieve the noblest triumphs. There is room for many such in Liberia, in her schools and in her professions, but far beyond her present (not her future) limits are the populous districts they are destined to enlighten and bless. We trust, the President of this Institute, to whom we are indebted for the following encouraging

view of its prospects, will be sustained in his labors and live to rejoice in the benefits it may confer on Africa and her children. We hope pupils from Yoruba and other countries of Central Africa may yet be sent for education to this Seminary. Thanks are due to its founders, and may it receive the generous patronage it so well deserves!

ASHMUN INSTITUTE, NOV. 14, 1857.

Rev. and Dear Sir:—Your esteemed favor of the 10th inst. was duly received.

It affords me very great pleasure to reply to your inquiries respecting the Ashmun Institute: an enterprise, to which, when understood, no true friend of the African race can be indifferent. And I the more readily reply to your note, as it introduces me to the acquaintance of one whose reputation as a devoted and self-denying laborer in the African cause, occupies an enviable position on both sides of the Atlantic.

The Ashmun Institute was founded by the Presbytery of New Castle, under the immediate supervision, and at the pecuniary risk of Dr. J. M. Dickey as President of the Board of Trustees. The buildings consist of a College edifice for the accommodation of forty students, or more, and a separate house for the President. These with 30 acres of land, cost about \$8,000. Of this sum, only between \$3,000 and \$4,000 have been received in miscellaneous contributions, to the present time. We have no endowment, or invested fund, for the support of the Institution. The boarding, &c., of each student, amounts to \$85, or \$110 for a session of eight months. This is to be paid by themselves, or by their friends sending them to us.

My salary, which is on y \$700, and the house, etc., is paid partly by the Trustees and partly by our Board of Education. We therefore depend for all things needful to conduct our enterprise, upon the bounty of the friends of the African race throughout the country. The cause of African Colonization I have deeply at heart. But it must be a *Christian* colonization, to be ultimately successful. And to accomplish this, some, at least, of those who are to be the teachers and missionaries of Africa, should be colored men, and *they must be educated in this country*. I have at present four students of theology, all of whom intend going to Liberia when they are through their course of study. We do not require them to pledge themselves to go there, in advance; but leave it to their conscience to decide what is duty, on a full and impartial examination of the subject. And although our Institute is Presbyterian, we do not require a theological student to profess our faith. We have at present one of the circuit preachers of the African M. E. Church, studying theology with us. We have also a young man from Liberia, Armstead Miller, recently under the tuition of Rev. D. A. Wilson in the Alexander High School, Monrovia. But he found it next to impossible to prosecute his studies there, on account of his own and Mr. Wilson's frequent ill-health;

and he has been sent here to complete his theological course, and to return to Liberia.

Mr. Bowen's idea exactly coincides with my own theory on this subject: I am fully satisfied that the work of foreign missions will be greatly facilitated by selecting proper subjects among the heathen and bringing them to this country to be educated. This is especially necessary with respect to Africa—a country in which God, in His holy Providence, does not permit the white man to live long enough, except in some rare instances, to do more than to show his willingness *to die in the attempt to evangelize her benighted millions*. I should welcome with peculiar pleasure ten or twelve well and *PRAYERFULLY* selected Africans, from as many different interior tribes—to become pupils in the Ashmun Institute.

And benevolent masters cannot do better by the slaves they propose to liberate as Liberian colonists, than to send them here to be educated. If you have the opportunity of recommending any such to us, you will be doing them a great favor, and promoting the best interests of African Colonization.

We wish to be rightly understood by the friends of the African race of all sections, but particularly so at the South. Our aim is, by God's blessing, to prepare the African for his home and for his work among his own people, *as a distinct people, and in Africa*.

Whatever you can do for us through the medium of your periodical, and by your personal influence, will be thankfully acknowledged.

I send herewith a copy of the Address delivered at the opening of the Institute, and also a circular stating terms, etc.

Hoping to hear from you frequently, and with my sincere wishes for your health, and the prosperity of the great cause in which you are engaged, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

JOHN A. CARTER,

President, &c. &c.

Rev. Dr. Gurley, Sec'y, &c.

Yoruba.—Rev. T. J. Bowen.

It will be seen, by the following letter, that the Southern Baptist Board of Foreign Missions have resolved, in accordance with the earnest wishes of their able missionary, the Rev. T. J. Bowen, to establish a seminary for the training and education of native preachers and teachers in Yoruba. Having completed his important

works here, his book on Central Africa and his Dictionary and Grammar of the Yoruba language—the last two to be published by the Smithsonian Institute—Mr. Bowen intends to return to his great work in Africa. We observe that his views of the importance of commerce and civilization as mighty auxiliaries to Christianity,

agree with those of the great traveller and missionary, Dr. Livingston. We hope our Government will avail themselves of his counsels and energy for the exploration of the Niger, and the establishment of friendly commercial relations with the powerful African tribes and nations near the outlets of the Niger, and in the vast interior districts of Central Africa. Nor should it be forgotten, that in the vicinity of Mr. Bowen's African home, is a large extent of country, fertile and eligible, deprived of inhabitants by civil war, which invite colonization, and will doubtless be required for the purpose.

[From the Southern Baptist, Dec. 22d.]

REV. T. J. BOWEN.

The following portions of a letter from Rev. T. J. Bowen, we take the liberty to publish, although not so intended by the writer, whose letter relates to a personal and practical matter. But Mr. Bowen's views concerning his training-school should be at once before the public.—*Ed. So. Bap.*

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 12.

Rev. J. P. Tustin,

Charleston:

My Dear Bro:—At their last meeting, the Foreign Mission Board resolved to establish a school in Yoruba for the training of colored preachers and teachers, both Americans and natives, to labor in Central Africa. They have also requested me to collect funds, and to seek for a few godly and sensible men to go out with me when I return to my field of labor. I hope to return in July.

Our success will very much depend in the hearty and prayerful co-operation of the brethren.

We are much encouraged in regard to this school by the fact that some of our best missionaries, as Jones, Day, Crowther, (a native,) and several others are colored men. An account of these missionaries would be one of the most interesting and astonishing things that we have yet seen from Africa. Our training school, with God's blessing, will send forth many such men to labor in Yoruba and the countries beyond it.

One leading idea of the enterprise is to make the school, as nearly as possible, self-supporting. To this end we will have shops and a farm, in which we will labor from one-fifth to one-seventh of our time. But the saving of expense will be one of the least advantages accruing from this industrial feature of our work. The self-denial, and our exact and orderly attention to religious exercises, study and manual labor, will be an excellent discipline for the mind. It will promote a spirit of manliness and self-reliance. It will supply ourselves and the people who purchase from us with many useful articles. It will make us healthy. It will qualify our students to instruct the people in all that pertains to christianity and civilization. It will exhibit an example of industry, economy, purity and success, which the present social condition of the Yorubas will enable them to appreciate.

I expect to remain in this city, engaged on my Yoruba Dictionary and Grammar, till about the 20th of January, when I hope to visit Charleston and many other places.

Truly yours,

T. J. BOWEN.

Intelligence.

THERE are in the city of Philadelphia, eighteen churches for colored people. Of these, ten, or more than one-half of the whole number, are in the Methodist connection; three are in the Baptist connection; two are Episcopalian, and three are Presbyterian. These churches are capable of accommodating about eleven thousand people, and comprise 4,354 communicating members. The estimated value of the church property is \$227,200. Favorable as this account is, much remains to be done for the colored population of that city, which is supposed to amount to 30,000.—*Richmond C. Advocate.*—

SLAVE TRADE UNDER A FREE NAME.—The Rev. Henry Townsend writes from Tsein, in the Yoruba country, giving some account of the working of the French negro

"emigration" scheme along the African coast. Under date, Lagos, Aug. 20, he says:

"There is a vessel ready to ship 1,200 at Whydah, taking in her living cargo, and the British cruisers can do nothing against it. It is a covert slave trade, and British Christians must stir themselves again, or the land will be again deluged with blood. As regards Africa itself, it is one and the same what is done with the victims. The slave trader asks not, cares not what becomes of the slaves he sells. People may call them what they like, make of them what they like. Calling them emigrants may stop European indignation, but will not alter the state of things in Africa." In a second letter, Mr. Townsend reiterates these opinions, and states that so far from the "emigration," proposed under the most advantageous terms, being advanta-

geous to the African, he is far better off in his own country, where, if he chooses he can reap thirty per cent, on his outlay in labor.—*N. Y. Observer*.

MANUMISSION.—The last will and testament of the late George W. P. Custis, of this county, was admitted to probate at the December term of the County Court, and by it, we learn, that he directed that *all his slaves*, on his different plantations, be set free within the next five years, leaving it to his executors to provide the necessary funds from his estate, to remove them from the Commonwealth. There are, probably, some two or three hundred slaves thus set free.—*Alex. Gazette*.

FRENCH NEGRO EMIGRATION SCHEME—The new French system of procuring negro labor for the French West India Colonies seems to have already produced bad effects in Africa. A letter from Mr. Campbell, British Consul at Lagos, has been published, stating that the example of the French in purchasing "slaves" at Whydah has been followed by a host of Spaniards, Portuguese, and Americans, and that, to supply the demand, the native chiefs have begun to go out hunting for slaves. Mr. Campbell fears that if the French system be continued "we must say good-bye to cotton from that part of Africa."—*London Record*.

LIBERATED.—The will of Mrs. Lucy Fine of Louisville, Kentucky, who liberated all her slaves, nine in number, was registered on last Monday. She gave to each of them one hundred dollars in cash, and made them equal heirs to her real estate in Jefferson street at the death of an aged brother. The slaves are to be sent to Ohio.

REVIVAL AMONG THE NEGROES.—The *Lynchburg (Va.) Courier* says:—"One of the effects of the great revival among colored people has been the establishment of a regular system of prayer-meetings for their benefit. Meetings are held every night during the week at the tobacco factories, the proprietors of which have been kind enough to place those edifices at the disposal of the colored brethren. The owners of the several factories preside over these meetings, and the most absolute good conduct is exhibited."

Religious Slaves.—In Newbern, N. C., the slaves have a large church of their own, which is always well attended. They pay a salary of \$500 per annum to their white

minister. They have likewise a negro preacher in their employ, whom they purchased from his master.—*Southern Monitor*

And Newbern in this respect is not isolated. For in nearly every town of any size in the Southern States, the colored people have their Churches, and what is more than is always known at the North, *they sustain their Churches and pay their ministers.*—*Express*.

COLORED DOCTORS.—The Berkshire Medical College, Pittsfield, Mass., has just graduated two colored students, educated gratuitously for the Colonization Society, to go to Liberia. The graduating class was, however, thinned on account of it, and one of the Professors, Dr. Dalton, of New York, resigned his chair.—*N. Chronicle*.

SERMON BY A SLAVE.—The Rev. Wm. S. Elsey, a Maryland slave, preached a sermon at Jayne's Hall last Sabbath afternoon, from the text, "And never man spake like this man." John 7: 45. After a neat and commendable introduction, he spoke more particularly, 1st, of the teachings of Christ; 2d, the manner of His speaking; 3d, the effect of his speaking.

At the conclusion he stated that he was a slave, that he was born in Somerset county, Md.; that at two years of age he was bought by Mrs. Bayley, at Cambridge, in Dorset co., Maryland; that he is now 51 years of age; that his mistress, who was fond of him to the extent of \$1000, had died intestate; that her daughter had him appraised; that his price was set down at \$350; that she was now in abject circumstances, and he wanted to relieve her by paying her the sum he was worth, and be conscious that he had done an act of charity to a poor woman, and given himself freedom. The collection was taken and amounted to \$30. He will remain in the city during this week, for the purpose of soliciting further aid. He is in the hands of several Methodist Episcopal ministers in the city.—*Philadelphia Evening Journal*.

COLORED SETTLEMENT IN CANADA.—Some years ago the Rev. William King, a slave owner in Louisiana, manumitted his slaves and removed them to Canada. They now, with others, occupy a tract of land at Buxton and the vicinity, called the Elgin Block, where Mr. King is stationed as a Presbyterian missionary.

A recent general meeting there was attended by Lord Althorp, son of Earl Spencer, and J. W. Probyn, Esq., both

members of the British Parliament, who made addresses. The whole educational and moral machinery is worked by the presiding genius of the Rev. W. King, to whom the entire settlement are under felt and acknowledged obligations. He teaches them agriculture and industry. He superintends their education, and preaches the gospel on the Lord's day. He regards the experiment as highly successful.

Cost of the Clergy.—It is calculated that the clergy cost the United States \$12,000,000 annually; the criminals, \$40,000,000; the lawyers, \$70,000,000; and liquors, \$200,000,000.

Anthony Burns, the fugitive, whose recapture in Boston produced such an excitement a few years since, it is stated, is now a student in the Faimount Theological Seminary, near Cincinnati. He has been studying a year or so past at Oberlin.

INSTRUCTION OF THE COLORED POPULATION.—*Resolved*, That the religious instruction of our *Colored population* be affectionately and earnestly commended to the ministry and eldership of our churches generally, as opening to us a field of most obligatory and interesting Christian effort, in which we are called to labor more faithfully and fully, by our regard for our

social interests, as well as by the higher considerations of duty to God and the souls of our fellow men.—*Synod of Va.*

NEGRO SUFFRAGE IN WISCONSIN.—In Wisconsin, as well as Iowa, a proposition to extend the right of suffrage to negroes has been rejected. The vote in its favor was much less than that for the Republican State Ticket.

Underground R. R. Return Trains.—The steamer Telegraph brings back from Canada on every trip, families of negroes who have formerly fled to the Provinces from the States. They describe the life and condition of the blacks in Canada as miserable in the extreme. They are principally from Canada West. Ohio and Michigan are likely to have large accessions to their negro population from that source. The Canadians have shown a disposition in their Parliament and in every day transactions to discourage the negro population coming to or remaining in the Provinces.—*Cleveland Plaindealer.*

☞ Inadvertently we omitted in our last number to mention the departure in the M. C. Stevens of the Rev. Mr. Weir and wife, colored missionaries of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, destined to Cape Mount.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society;

From the 20th of November to the 20th of December, 1857.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.	
West Lebanon—Collection in Congregational Church, by Rev. Rufus Case.....	14 00
MASSACHUSETTS.	
A friend, to constitute Franklin P. Snedecor a life-member....	30 00
NEW YORK.	
New York State Colonization Society, by Rev. J. B. Pinney, viz: balance of goods per Lamartine, reported by Dr. J. S. Smith.....	153 59
"Sundry expenses for Emigrants paid by our treasurer, N. Hayden, Esq.".....	769 31
	922 90

MARYLAND.

Baltimore—Mrs. E. A. W. Riffin, in part for colonizing her people.....	1,000 00
Maryland State Col. Society, for passage of 38 persons to Liberia, \$1,119; and for freight, \$50;	

charged to them on account of their loan to help finish and furnish our ship.....	1,054 50
Rockville and Bethesda Church, to constitute Rev. W. T. Eva and Wife life-members	60 00
	2,124 50

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington City—From freight and passage in ship M. C. Stevens, voyage B.....	1,769 15
Ditto, ditto, voyage C.....	1,336 97
Interest on investments.....	634 00
Collections by Rev. J. N. Danforth, D. D., in part to constitute James Buchanan a life-Director—viz: Franklin Pierce, \$100, W. W. Corcoran, \$100, John Slidell, \$50, W. Wright, \$50, A. F. K., \$20, J. C. R., \$50, C. M., \$10, A. O. D., \$10, T. B., \$10, J. P., \$10, J. M. C., \$10, T. H., \$10, J. W. D., \$10, T. J. D., \$10, J. L.,	

\$10, Dr. W., \$10, Gen. J., \$10,
J. M. J., \$10, M. McC., \$10,
G. C. W., \$5, C. B. M., \$5,
T. B., \$5, J. L. S., \$5, M. H.
M., \$5..... 525 00
Collection in 4th Pres. Church, 32 69
Miscellaneous collections, \$38,
J. J., \$5; C. W. Pairo, \$30, 73 00

4,370 81

VIRGINIA.

Triadelphia—Mrs. Mary Brown.. 10 00
Hampstead—Mrs. M. C. Stewart, 10 00
Romney—Foreman Inskeep, Ex-
ecutor of Sarah Inskeep, de-
ceased, for passage of one man
to Liberia..... 35 00
Lynchburg—Samuel Miller, for
colonizing one person..... 70 00
Prince Edward Co.—Jos. Dupuy,
Executor of John Watson, de-
ceased, for colonizing 66 per-
sons..... 3,850 00
Virginia Colonization Society, by
Rev. P. Slaughter, for colon-
izing 22 persons..... 1,100 00

5,075 00

NORTH CAROLINA.

Perquimans Co.—Nathan Wins-
low, by Rev. W. H. Starr... 10 00

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston—Wm. Hazzard, for
3 Nos. Repository..... 20

KENTUCKY.

Kentucky Colonization Society,
by Rev. A. M. Cowan, for
passage of one man and part
support..... 60 00
For two Cottage Receptacles,
freight, &c..... 700 00
Christian County—Robt. McKee,
Executor of Thos. Coleman,
deceased, for colonizing nine
persons..... 630 00

1,390 00

OHIO.

Xenia—Collected by Rev. J. C.
McMillan and G. J. Vaneaton, 20 50
Cedarville—Auxiliary Col. Socie-
ty, by H. M. Nisbet, Tr.... 5 00
Palmyra—Steven Edwards 4 00
Columbus—By Rev. J. Orcutt, viz:
Dr. Goodale, \$10, in part of
life-membership; M. J. Ridg-
way, Robt. Neil, D. J. Wood-
bury, ea. \$10; Mrs. C. Swayne,
Mrs. J. S. Ridgway, each \$5;
P. B. Doddridge, Mrs. Judge
Buttles, each \$2; Mrs. M.
Sullivan, \$1.25, Mrs. N. J.
Gwynne, Mrs. L. G. Andrews,

T. W. Carpenter, G. F. O'Harra,
J. S. Abbott, each \$1..... 60 25
Dayton—Henry Stoddard, \$50;
Rev. J. Orcutt, (avails of half
day supply) \$10..... 60 00
Cleveland—Leonard Case..... 5 00

154 75

INDIANA.

Indianapolis—Hon. H. O. Smith,
Harvey Bates, James M. Ray,
each \$5; Jer. McLere and
Cash, each \$2..... 19 00
Lafayette—Hon. H. L. Ellsworth,
\$5, J. Spencer, W. J. Snoddy,
J. K. Snyder, each \$1, by Rev.
J. Orcutt..... 8 00

27 00

Total Contributions..... 14,223 66

FOR REPOSITORY.

MAINE.—*Portland*—Asa C. Tut-
tle, to 1 Dec. 1858..... 1 00

VERMONT.—*South Rygate*—John
McLure, to 1 Jan. 1859, \$2;
Wm. McLure, to 1 Jan. 1858,
\$1..... 3 00

RHODE ISLAND.—*Woonsocket*—
Arnold Spear, to Jan. 1859, 1 00

NEW YORK.—*Jonesville*—Mr. Jones, 1 00

VIRGINIA.—*Broad Run*—Thomas
H. Boswell, \$1. *Pine View*—
Miss Mary I. Skinker, each
\$1, for 1857..... 2 00

NORTH CAROLINA.—*Elizabeth City*
—G. W. F. Dashiell, \$1. *New-*
by's Bridge—Dr. Wm. Nichol-
son, \$1. *Edenton*—Rev. C. B.

Reddick, Wm. R. Skinner, and
F. S. Roberts, each \$1, by
Rev. W. H. Starr..... 5 00

GEORGIA.—*Albany*—Rev. C. D.
Mallory, for 1858, \$1. *Augusta*
—Mrs. M. Moderwell, for her-
self and Mrs. S. D. Hutchison,
for 1858, \$2..... 3 00

OHIO.—*Palmyra*—Stephen Ed-
wards, for 1858, \$1. *Colum-*
bus—Thomas Moodie, in full,
\$7..... 8 00

TENNESSEE.—*Cleveland*—J. Nat-
ches, for 1858, \$1. *Boyd's*
Creek—Charles Chandler, for
1857, \$1..... 2 00

TEXAS.—*Austin*—Rev. B. O. Wat-
rous, for 1857..... 1 00

Total Repository..... 27 00

Total Contributions..... 14,223 66

Aggregate Amount..... \$14,147 16

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KENTUCKY.—Hon. W. L. Underwood, Rev. Alex. M. Cowan.

Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society.

The Society and Board of Directors will hold their next annual meeting on the third Tuesday (19th) of January, 1858, in this city.

Next Expedition.

OUR Ship, the MARY CAROLINE STEVENS, will sail from Baltimore and Norfolk the 1st of May next. Application for freight or cabin passage should be made to Dr. James Hall, Colonization Office, Baltimore; for steerage passage, immediately to this office. The Ship will touch at all the ports in Liberia. Fare: Cabin \$100; Steerage \$35. Freight, \$1.50 a barrel, 30 cents a cubic foot, \$10 a ton. Palm oil, 5 cents a gallon on the entire capacity of the casks. No single package will be taken for less than \$1. All freight will be received and delivered alongside the ship, or landed at the risk and expense of the shipper or consignee. Passage and freight to be paid in advance. Five per cent. primage will be charged on all freight which is not paid in advance.

☞ All persons sending parcels and packages by Express or otherwise to Baltimore, to be forwarded in the ship, must pay the expenses on the same, including drayage to the ship, in Baltimore. No freight will be received at Norfolk.—The ship will only touch there for emigrants and their baggage and other belongings.

All letters sent to the care of this office will be duly forwarded in the ship.

Papers friendly will please copy.

Address of Agents.

REV. B. O. PLIMPTON, *Madison, Ohio*; JOHN C. STOCKTON, *Mount Vernon, Ohio*; REV. A. D. EDDY, D. D., *Chicago, Ills.*; REV. L. D. BALDWIN, *Nashville, Tenn.*; REV. E. G. NICHOLSON, *Hamilton, Ohio*; CAPT. G. BARKER, *Bangor, Me.*; REV. J. S. BACON, D. D., —; REV. J. N. DANFORTH, D. D., *Alexandria, Va.*

These gentlemen are all commissioned by the Society. Several have but just been appointed and made no report of their labors. Some devote but a portion of their time to the cause. May they be blessed with great success.

Terms of the Repository.

THE African Repository is issued regularly on the 1st of every month, at \$1 per annum, payable in advance.

The Repository will be sent gratuitously—

To every clergyman who takes up annually a collection to aid the Am. Col. Society.

To every person who contributes annually ten dollars, or more, to the Society.

To every life member of the Society;—constituted by the payment of thirty dollars.

To every person obtaining three new subscribers, and remitting the money.

Subscribers who may not be visited by any of our regular agents, will please remit to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, the amount of their subscription, in any kind of funds which may be most convenient to them; which will be acknowledged by mail, free of postage, and also in the succeeding number of the Repository.

